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Georgia College's Student Newspaper

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April 4 - 10, 2018

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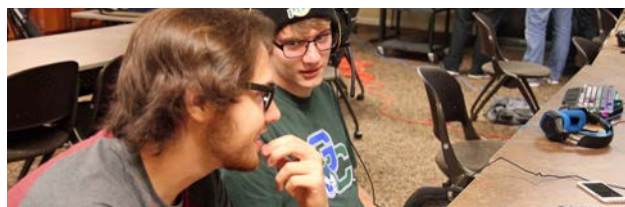
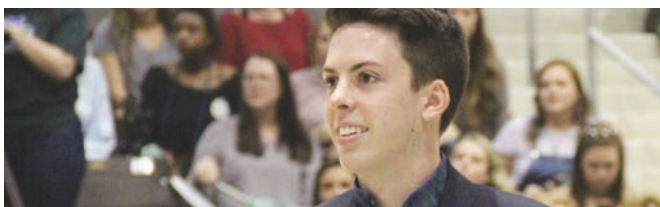
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THE COLONNADE

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CORRECTIONS

In the article “Anatomy professor educates locally and globally” in the Feb. 28 issue, there was a line that said, “Although a professor emeritus, he has cut virtually all ties with the university.” This statement is inaccurate. Ken Saladin emailed us a correction that read, “I haven’t cut ties with Georgia College by any means. I still attend university events and donate to GC, and I have lunch almost every Friday with active and retired GC colleagues.”

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Matt Krack resigns, Lord to appoint new SGA VP-elect

Brendan Borders
Staff Writer

Matt Krack resigned as SGA vice president-elect on March 14 after making controversial remarks at a sorority fundraiser. President-elect Amelia Lord will appoint a replacement before the end of April.

His resignation follows backlash from many in the GC community toward Krack's standup comedy performance at Alpha Delta Pi's annual King of Diamonds philanthropy event on March 7. Throughout the routine, Krack cracked jokes his critics have called insensitive about various fraternities on campus, current SGA President Mike Muller and the sexuality of Theta Chi member Matthew Kelly.

"I think what he did was in poor taste, and I think it's not the time to make those jokes when you are at a sorority function supporting the Ronald McDonald House," said Kelly, a sophomore accounting major.

However, Kelly said he was not offended by the jokes made against him and that he thought they were funny.

But Tom Miles, executive director of campus life at GC, felt differently.

"To say something derogatory

against the president of the U.S. can be perceived as funny because everybody knows it is outlandish and has no validity whatsoever, but comedy is predicated on who you're talking about, what your relationship is in terms of the people you are talking about, and so it just matters," Miles said.

However, Miles said GC administration will not get involved, considering this incident a student organizational issue. But he said the jokes that came from Krack were highly offensive and not funny.

Junior Carmen Joiner, a marketing major and president of ADPi, said many ADPi members were caught off guard by Krack's routine.

"We had no idea that any of that was going to happen," Joiner said. "Typically, we ask everybody to run through their talents, but we were running short on time and never heard [the routine]. Honestly they were just pretty offensive."

Junior Mike Muller, current SGA president and an economics and political science major, said he was not pleased with the jokes Krack made and felt like it was a poor decision for somebody like Krack who will take office soon.

"Honestly I was disgusted by a lot of them, and I think it put a damper on a lot of our campus life, considering that a lot of the allegations weren't true, which is just not okay," Muller said.

Krack said he stepped down for mental health reasons and that his resignation had nothing to do with him coming under fire from his standup performance. He said that following the event, he experienced negative interactions with SGA members and others at GC that made him feel it would be best to step down because it could be detrimental to his mental health if he continued to work with them.

"It was less the event and more trying to take care of myself," Krack said.

Krack said he was just trying to be funny onstage at King of Diamonds.

"When I signed up for King of Diamonds, I wanted to help ADPi's philanthropy," Krack said. "They



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Krack performed a standup routine at Alpha Delta Pi's King of Diamonds philanthropy event.

were some of my biggest supporters in the campaign, and so I was trying to return the favor, and growing up, one of the things I was only ever good at was comedy and making people laugh. It wasn't me getting on stage and trying to be mean to everyone because if that was the reaction, I wouldn't have done it."

Krack said he now sees the incident as a lapse in judgment.

"If I wasn't the vice president elect, it would not have been an issue," Krack said.

Krack said his new focus is future-leaning, and he will no longer participate in student government. Even if he was appointed, Krack said, he would still politely decline.

Within the next several weeks, SGA President-Elect and President Pro Tempore Amelia Lord will appoint a new vice president-elect.

"As soon as Matt resigned, I

had to think about what to do next because I never want to be caught without a plan," Lord said.

Lord said she is revisiting SGA's constitution and bylaws and working on a resolution to the constitution to prevent confusion like this from happening in the future. SGA will vote on the resolution on April 6.

A GC SGA vice president-elect has never before resigned from office.

The only other similar event in SGA history occurred during SGA President Evan Karanovich's administration from 2011-2012, when then Vice President Ross Sheppard was arrested for a DUI in Putnam county and was impeached from office.

Lord said that SGA is separate from her friendship with Krack and that they will remain good friends.

She said that she still thinks very highly of him, and this incident does not negate Krack's talents and caring nature.

Krack said Lord was extremely helpful through the resignation process.

"She is probably the only member of student government who really slowed down to think in a deliberative process and actually consider all the facts, look at all the sides, which is why I think she'll make a great president," Krack said.

Krack said that winning vice president did not define him.

"I was the one who defined what winning was, and so it wasn't like my whole life was falling apart, you know?" Krack said. "It was just one piece, and I said, 'Okay, onto the next thing.'"



Photo courtesy of Kristen Pack

Krack resigned as vice-president elect.



UNSUNG HEROES

Charlie Thomas

**Katie
O'Neal**
Staff Writer

Charlie Thomas has been cutting grass, weed-eating, spreading straw and pulling weeds at GC for eight years.

"I mostly cut grass and edge," said Thomas, whose two uncles also work at GC landscaping. "Bennie and Roger Thomas are the ones that got me into doing this."

Thomas, who is 64 years old, said he enjoys that the job is very active and keeps him moving.

"It keeps me in shape, that's for sure," he said.

Thomas said he believes exercise is very important, especially when getting older.

"When I first got here, it was kinda rough on me because I was used to being inside," Thomas said. He had worked for Rheem Air Conditioning for 10 years before coming to GC.

Born and raised in Hancock county, Thomas was the sixth of 11 children, with seven sisters and three brothers. Growing up, Thomas was close to his brothers and sisters, which hasn't changed today.

"We still hanging," Thomas said. "We ain't got no animosity. You know, some kids growing up don't get along; we all get along."

Thomas attended school at Hancock Central High, where he was a part of the softball and baseball programs, playing second base. He and his brothers

"Daddy was a sharecropper. It was rough. I had to pick cotton, pull corn, feed the hogs and feed the pigs."

-Charlie Thomas

also often played sports together after school.

"Me and my brother would used to compete playing basketball, one on one," Thomas explained.

When he was younger, his entire family loved going down to the creek to fish for perch and bass. Born in the 1950s, Thomas grew up on his family's farm, working alongside his father.

"Daddy was a sharecropper,"

Thomas said. "It was rough. I had to pick cotton, pull corn, feed the hog and feed the pigs. We had chickens, but they went out into the woods and got their own food. We didn't feed them."

His dad and family worked on the farm as sharecroppers until Thomas was about 12-years-old, when life changed for the better.

"Mamma and Daddy got a job in the 1960s, and we moved off them folks' property when Mamma and Daddy bought their own house," Thomas explained. "When I got out of high school, I got me a car, you know, kinda on the hot side, and wanted to start fixing up old vehicles."

Today, Thomas has other hobbies. 15 years ago, he bought a pool table and has since fallen in love with the game. He practices in his spare time, something he didn't get to do much when he was young. He enjoys shooting pool by himself after work and with his friends, who often get together and have competitions among themselves on the weekends.

Thomas also has a passion for cooking in his free time. Lately, he's been polishing the perfect biscuit recipe.

"I've been getting it down pat for the last six months, and I cook them about once a week," Thomas said. "When I first started, they would come out too greasy, but now I got a good tasting biscuit."

Thomas can often be seen working hard at taking care of the grounds, and his and his co-workers' beautiful landscaping does not go unnoticed.

GC grounds supervisor Chris Frame said that Thomas is a quiet, dependable worker.

His co-worker Torrie Hudson agrees.

"I think Charlie is consistent and very good at compromising," Hudson said. "He is a good teacher and mentor, and he's just a good guy overall."

Thomas said he is proud of the GC students around him every day because he believes education is very important. He is currently encouraging his three grandchildren to go on to college and get a degree.

"I encourage anybody to finish high school and continue with their education," he said.



Madi Hartly / Staff Photographer

Thomas is working toward perfecting his biscuit recipe.

The future of Andalusia farm at Georgia College

Chris Collier

Contributing Writer

After accepting the donation of Andalusia Farm in August 2017, GC has started work to restore and preserve the historic site in an effort to provide the most authentic Flannery O' Connor experience possible.

Matt Davis, the director of Historic Museums for Georgia College, serves as the administrative officer and chief curator for multiple historic sites: Andalusia Farm, Georgia's Old Governor's Mansion and the Sallie Ellis Davis House. Along with being responsible for public relations, policy making and planning, the director helps conserve and restore the various museums and their collections.

Davis said that through extensive restoration, visitors will be able to experience the storied past that influenced O' Connor's work.

"Once we complete the restoration, the site will be fully restored to the period in which Miss O' Connor lived at the site," Davis said. "Through these efforts, visitors will be able to gain a better understanding of the site and how it influenced her work, the history of the Cline and O' Connor families, an understanding of what life was like in mid-20th century Georgia and the functions of a working dairy farm. So visitors will have a great many things to learn on a visit to the property."

Meghan Anderson, a staff curator for the site, is responsible for the care and management of the collection at the farm. This includes the outer buildings, the artifacts within the farm house and the house itself. She said the museum hopes to add a visitor center and an education building close to the entrance of the farm.

Anderson said that the possibilities for exciting events on the new-and-improved farm are endless.

"When I began interviewing for the job, my mind went wild with all of the possibilities for events, both small and large," Anderson said. "Once we reopen, I will be revisiting some of these ideas. Andalusia is unique in that it is so versatile; you can explore it from a historical perspective, a literary or artistic one and, with all of its acres, the environmental side."

Anderson said that she's been asked about the return of the Bluegrass Festival more than once.

"Other than, 'When are you opening?' the question I get asked the most is, 'Will you still have the Bluegrass Festival?'" Anderson said. "As a newcomer to the area, I can tell this event is one the community enjoyed and wants to return, so I look forward to getting this going."

Anderson said she is most excited for the return of O' Connor's desk and chair for her room, as well as two bookcases for the side parlor at the farm.

"These items are on loan to us from the GCSU Special Collections," Anderson said. "Having these four substantial pieces return is a big deal and increases the value of the history and narrative we plan on telling."

With the re-opening of the farm will come defined hours of operation. Anderson said this will make the farm a more convenient tourist attraction. The planned hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

Walter Reynolds is currently a member of Milledgeville's City Council. Serving on the Andalusia Foundation Board, he has assisted in the transfer and restoration of Andalusia Farm in a variety of ways.

"Perhaps the most direct way that



Ada Montgomery / Senior Photographer

Andalusia Farm, Flannery O' Connor's childhood home, was donated to Georgia College in 2017. It is currently undergoing renovation and restoration.

board members work to the benefit of their foundations is in finding or providing resources — either by way of monetary donations or volunteering their time," Reynolds said. "I gave what I could in both cases. I feel that being a part of the transfer of Andalusia to the GC Foundation was perhaps the most

important thing that I participated in."

Reynolds said GC's acquisition of Andalusia is a perfect fit for both parties.

"GC has the resources and support needed to preserve and maintain Flannery's literary legacy, and it seems to be a fitting and

beneficial arrangement thus far," Reynolds said.

Fortunately for O' Connor fans, the wait won't be too much longer. Although the date for the re-opening of the historic site isn't set in stone, Davis said he hopes to have the site open for visitors by late spring or early summer.

GC average income almost triple that of a local citizens

Brendan Borders
Contributing Writer

The average GC employee makes two and half times the average income of someone living in Baldwin County, according to Census data and a GC payroll analysis.

The average income of a Baldwin County citizen sits at \$19,147, while the average income of an employee at GC is \$51,101. GC has 998 full-time employees, including faculty and staff.

In Baldwin County, the median household income sits at \$34,595, according to Census data from 2016. In 2017, the median income of full-time employees at GC stood at \$43,072. If an employee at GC is married and their partner works, this number jumps even higher.

To put this data into perspective, Cobb County, home to Kennesaw State University, has a median household income of \$68,818. The average individual income in Cobb is \$34,891.

GC students come from homes earning nearly four times the Baldwin County median income, according to the Equal Opportunity Project's data cited in a recent article in The Red and Black.

The median family income of students at GC is \$114,000.

In addition to this data, GC has no full-time, benefited employees who are earning minimum wage. This information however, does not apply to Sodexo, a private company operating on the GC campus with both full-and part-time employees.

"Let's just compare teaching jobs," said John Lindsay, a professor of psychology. "Middle school teachers should make way more money than I make. Middle school teachers should make what professional athletes make because that's a hard job. Other teachers in the community make less than we do and work harder."

Lindsay said the statistics can be skewed by outliers at GC reporting higher incomes.

Gregory Barnes, a local pastor and the chair for economic sustainability at the Georgia NAACP, said these figures are unfortunate but unsurprising.

"[These numbers are] expected, sad, but expected," Barnes said. "This just almost exemplifies that GC is almost in it's own world here...How do you win industry here, with numbers like that?"

Barnes also mentioned that the main problem in Baldwin County is the lack of strategy to develop entrepreneurship, and that city leaders have not discovered the importance of investing within ourselves.

He said that he carries a quote from the Berry Goldwater Institute with him daily: "Removing barriers to entrepreneurship is a vital component to reducing poverty."

Barnes mentioned that he feels the lack of strategy in investment for Baldwin County has contributed to low incomes being reported, and that right now, Baldwin County is just hoping that some big company will land here and set up shop. He stated that hoping is not a strategy, and this is the reason why these incomes for Baldwin citizens are so low.

Barnes added that the only way to increase those incomes being reported is to invest in each other, develop a strong strategic plan and start removing barriers for success.

Justin Roush, a professor of economics at GC, commented on the sizeable margin between GC employee's incomes compared to those of Baldwin County citizen's incomes.

"That difference is a real problem because if you look at income mobility for an individual who is in a lower income quartile, there's not a whole lot of places to go to find upper wage mobility because we do not have those high return jobs outside of education and the hospital, whereas you would have lots more opportunities in a bigger city," Roush said.

Roush also mentioned that Baldwin qualifies as "capital-sparse" or "workplace-sparse," meaning there's not enough income to encourage entrepreneurship. He explained: "Somebody with an income of \$19,000 is not going to start new businesses."

THIS WEEK AT GC

A calendar of events

Times Talk: Congress to Campus

Wed. April 4th @ 12 p.m.
Russell Library

Times Talk celebrates 10 years of vibrant and civil discourse of American and global events as reported in The New York Times. This talk will be hosted by former two former congressmen, who will speak on development in rural America.



BRAVE Bystander Training

Wed. April 4th @ 5:30 p.m.
The HUB

Do you want to know what you can do to stop power-based interpersonal violence (sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, etc.) in GC's community? Check out Brave's peer facilitator-led Be BRAVE: Step Up Bystander Intervention training.



Through Her Eyes: A Women's History Month Art Exhibit

This week until April 6th
The HUB

In celebration of Women's History Month, the HUB is hosting an art exhibition featuring work by six female Georgia College student artists.



Lil' Grand Canyon Backpacking Trip

April 6th @ 2 p.m. to April 8 @ 3 p.m.
Providence Canyon State Park

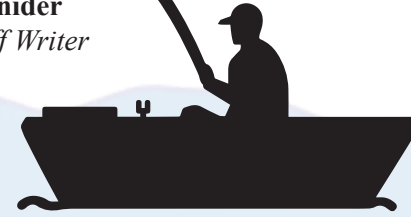
Providence Canyon, fondly nicknamed Georgia's "Little Grand Canyon" is full of unique scenic views. Join the GC Outdoor Center in hiking all through the park.



For more information, visit frontpage.gcsu.edu.



GC bass fishing making waves across the country

Caroline
Snider
Staff Writer

The GC bass fishing team is ranked in the top 55 of all schools in the nation. With the National Championship on the horizon, the team has high expectations for the rest of their season.

Many people are unaware that the GC bass fishing team competes year-round. The season begins in September and ends with the National Championship in July.

The competition is not as easy as some may think: the competitive side to fishing is more than simply casting a line.

According to the president of the GC bass fishing team, Robert Keene, the level of competition is extremely intense. Keene is a senior marketing major who grew up in Oconee County with a 12-acre pond in his backyard where he spent most of his time fishing. Keene's interest in GC was sparked by his uncle who told him that GC had a fishing team.

"The bass fishing team is one of the reasons why I came to GC, and I have loved it ever since," Keene said.

When he entered his freshman year at GC, Keene said he helped out as much as he could to benefit the team. He began promoting the team by updating the team's website and posting on social media. His efforts boosted the number of team members from nine to 18 in just one season.

Keene was then elected president by his team for his junior year. The president's duties are managing money, sponsorships, traveling and lodging details for trips.

Along with Keene, junior team members Austin Stanley and David Keener are both anglers. Anglers, also known as boaters, are the owners of the boat.

Stanley and Keener both started fishing at

a young age, and their passion for fishing has grown more over the years.

"I've been fishing since I was two years old with my dad," Stanley explained.

The team practices at Lake Sinclair in Milledgeville, which is known for some of the best fishing in Georgia, according to Keener and Stanley. There are 20 members on the team, ten boaters and ten non-boaters. When competing, there are only two people in each boat, the boater and non-boater.

The responsibilities of the boater include having all the supplies needed, such as the net, life jackets, paddle, scale and measuring board. Most importantly, the boater must possess the knowledge of where to go on the water. The non-boater helps pay for the gas and provides any other help that the boater may need.

Throughout the season, the team practices about twice a week on their own time. They do not have scheduled practices.

"For practice, we just call a couple of the guys that are free and want to go out on the water, which is usually on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons," Keener said.

However, for tournaments, the fishermen practice three days before the tournament from sunrise to sunset to understand how the fish are biting and what areas on the lake give them the best chance of winning. On the day of the tournament, they start at daybreak and go to the weighing station around 3 p.m.

From September to December, the team competes in four qualifiers. These are the tournaments that rank the fishermen for the spring, depending on their outcome.

The ranks are important because only the top four anglers are funded by the school. Whoever is ranked first is 100 percent funded, second is 75 percent funded, third is 50 percent funded and fourth is 25

percent funded. The weight of the top five fish that are caught determines a win.

"You can catch as many as you want, but you only keep the top five that you think weigh the most," Stanley said.

The team travels across the southeast for tournaments to places like Lake Chickamauga in Tennessee, Lake Pickwick, Lake Guntersville in Alabama and Kentucky Lake and Toledo Bend between Texas and Louisiana.

Keene said he enjoys being able to represent GC in a positive way and travel all over the country.

"It's a dream being apart of this team," Keene said.

Keene described his relationship with his team as his fraternity, saying they are all best friends. However, his favorite part of fishing is the adrenaline rush that he gets when he catches a fish.

His teammate Keener explained that it takes much experience and luck to become a good fisherman.

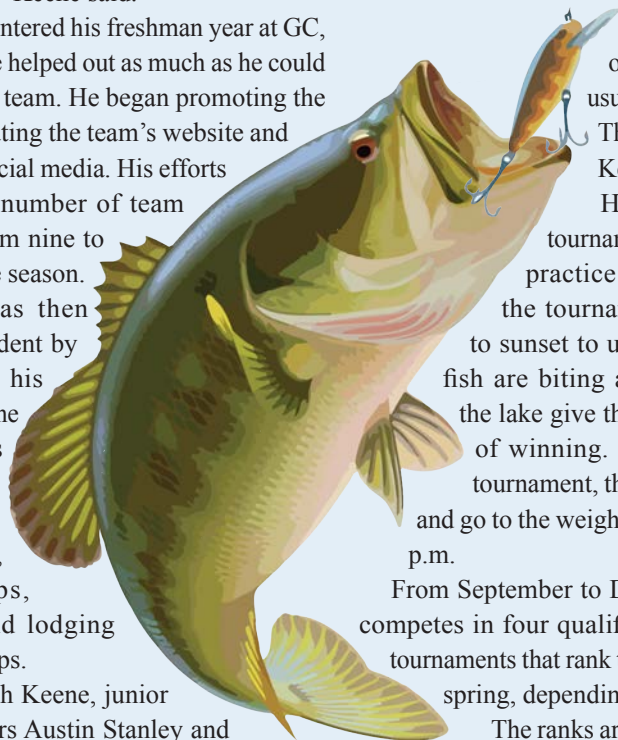
"You learn more about the fish over time and how to cast, what to throw, where to throw and when to throw," Keener said.

However, many aspects of fishing are out of fishermen's control, such as the fish biting or the weather cooperating. Keener and Stanley said it takes patience, motivation, hard work and a positive attitude.

From tournament to tournament, improvements must be made just like any other sport.

"In order to improve, it simply takes more time on the water," Keene said. "This allows you to try new and different techniques each day. Time on the water also builds your confidence."

Keene's goal for the rest of the season is to continue being successful as a team and finish in the top 15. Since Keene is graduating in May, he is in the process of passing his knowledge of the president's responsibilities down to Stanley, who is president-elect for next year, hoping for a victorious bass fishing team for the future at GC.



Patrick Steimer/ Staff Photographer

Seniors Robert Keene (left) and Phillip Green (right) practice bass fishing at Lake Sinclair before getting ready for competitions.

Esports takes second at NCAA's first championship



Photo courtesy of GC Sports Information

The GC esports team placed second in the PBC championship and will advance to the University League of Legends hosted by Riot Games on May 25.

Alex Jones
Staff Writer

GC's esports team placed runner-up at the Peach Belt Conference championship on March 25, the first ever conference championship for esports in any NCAA division.

GC played in a seeding tournament leading up to the conference championship where they were able to acquire the three-seed. Their first matchup in the PBC championship was Lander, who they swept 2-0 in a best of three.

"We didn't expect Lander to be too challenging as a six-seed," said freshman Anthony Cheang. "We handled them pretty easily."

The Bobcats moved on to the semifinals to face Augusta University, who they had previously lost to during the seeding tournament. GC came out strong and aggressive, sweeping Augusta 2-0 and advancing to the conference finals.

"We had lost to Augusta in the seeding play, but we knew we had a chance to win," Cheang said. "When we won, it was a big boost."

The PBC finals increased to a best of five match play as GC

prepared to face North Georgia in the championship. UNG took a quick 2-0 lead over the Bobcats before GC could squeeze out a hard fought win that elapsed over a 45-minute span.

UNG won the next game and took home the conference championship honors with a 3-1 victory over GC.

"North Georgia has great overall players and experience," said junior Nick Delor. "They've had their esports team for three years."

GC moves on to the University League of Legends tournament hosted by the game's creator, Riot Games. If the team finishes

in the top eight, they will travel to Los Angeles for the national tournament.

GC esports first year program turned out to be successful. The Bobcats competed without a coach, unlike most of their conference opponents. "One of our team members [Kyle Kibodeaux] plans to step down as a player after this season and become the coach," Cheang said. "He wants to take on a more supporting role for the esports community at GC."

The team also emphasized their desire for a budget moving forward. At the moment, they support and fund themselves.

I think a budget would be a big help," Cheang said. "In our first year, we reached the championship, and I think we deserve it to help the esports team progress."

With players stepping down and taking on other supporting roles for the team, there will be available roster spots that can be filled. The team plans to hold tryouts next semester.

"We're going to be good if not better next season," Delor said. "Hopefully we can recruit some good players."

A letter to the editor: Response to 'Sassy Cats' article

Dear Editor:

I am writing to you in reference to the article titled, "Sassy Cats take 2nd at PBC without adviser," written by Lindsay Stevens. As the former Sassy Cats Advisor, I have volunteered my time for over 15 years, and wish only the best for this organization. Since your article never mentioned anything about my tenure as the Sassy Cats' Advisor/Coach, I can only assume that Lindsay wasn't aware that even after retiring from Georgia College five years ago, I had continued to volunteer my time for these ladies. The most disappointing thing with this article is that it chose not to focus on the Sassy Cats amazing season, but created a sensationalized "scandal" which overshadowed their actual accomplishments. While I can't change the past, I would like

to address several inaccuracies that were in this article:

It stated I quit, "the Thursday before the competition" which would have been Feb. 22nd;" however, I resigned two Thursdays before the Peach Belt Conference on Feb. 15th.

It claims I left the team, "without uniforms and without knowledge of how to handle administrative tasks," which is completely inaccurate. Prior to my resignation, I had submitted all paperwork for Peach Belt (Jan. 29th), instructed the captain about remaining tasks (like purchasing music), ordered and delivered their new uniforms, reserved a meal and transportation, and arranged for the Sassy Cats to travel with the Cheerleading Team.

It stated, "Along with leaving the team days before the competition, Henderson

attempted to take the costumes they ordered and told the team members to order their own," which is again totally inaccurate. Since the Sassy Cats had exhausted their budget, I personally fronted the money and ordered their uniforms for the Peach Belt Competition. The uniforms were ordered on Feb. 13th, arrived February 15th, and were delivered to the ladies that same day, which was 10 days before the competition not three. This was also prior to receiving reimbursement which occurred March 5th.

It claimed that I, "didn't have the same responsibilities as a coach;" however, Pattie Weimer was their on-campus Advisor of record, and I served as their off-campus Advisor, and according to the Department of Athletics, I also served as their Coach.

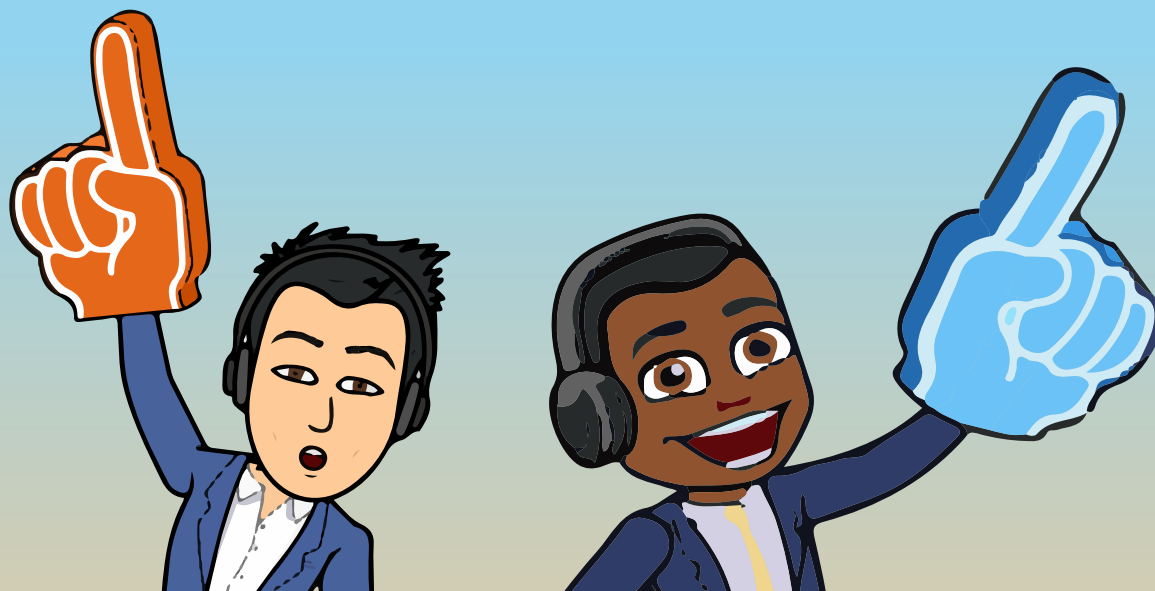
I understand that The Colonnade is a

student paper, that writers are still learning journalism skills, and I do not harbor ill feelings towards Ms. Stevens. I do hope that she learns from this experience that it is more important to research all the facts, than to rush a story with so many inaccuracies. I can provide documents (emails, texts, shipping info, registration forms, etc.) which verify the facts I have addressed in this letter and hope to meet with you to go over it.

In closing, I want to say that I'll always be a part of the Georgia College and Bobcat Athletics families, and I wish nothing but continued success for the Sassy Cats.

Sincerely,

Doris Henderson



3 AND OUT

THE COLONNADE'S SPORT PODCAST

The Colonnade's sports editors, Isaiah Smith and Chris Lambert, will be releasing the next episode Thursday, April 5 on The Colonnade's YouTube Channel.

This Masters week, take a moment and smell the azaleas

Chris Lambert
Co-Sports Editor

We built him up. We lauded him as a god among men, as “the greatest athlete of his sport,” and possibly of all time. He was untouchable. But then, as soon as he showed any sign of being a mere mortal, we turned on him, if only for a brief moment. Who am I talking about? The one, the only, Eldrick “Tiger” Wood, whose meteoric rise to fame gave us one of the most dominant runs in any sport, and whose fall from grace became a modern day version of watching a gladiator being ripped apart by lions, only we were the lions.

As we sit only one day out from Tiger Woods making his first serious run at a major in years, more questions should be asked. Not about his back, or his knees, or his swing, which has undergone more changes and tweaks than Dolly

Parton. We should be asking about his shattered psyche. Tiger was not only once the most physically dominant golfer of all-time, so dominant that golf courses began adding length simply because of him, “Tiger-proofing” their golf courses. This was an edge, sure. But the real edge came anytime you saw “T. Woods” on the leaderboard, within six shots of the lead on Saturday. Tiger closed like a freight train, putting together stretches of unbelievable golf, without ever breaking that steely gaze, or missing a step in his stride as he stalked the greens. When the pressure got on, where regular golfers folded, Tiger Woods rose up. Out of the 14 major victories in his career, all of them have come after he was leading going into the final round. Tiger Woods, simply put, did not choke.

That killer instinct and unbreakable mental strength has been replaced with an uncertainty that most weekend duffers would recognize instantly. In his first attempted comeback after back surgery in 2015, Tiger Woods got

the yips. Let me say that again. Tiger freaking Woods got the yips. The man who once chipped in off the green on 16 at Augusta, with one of the most lauded short games ever, got the yips. He could not chip the ball without hitting it fat, or blading it across the green. So broken down was he from the public stripping he got at our hands, he could not do what he had done since he was two years old, hitting on *The Mike Douglas Show*.

Tiger Woods made golf sexy. Before him it required, as Happy Gilmore famously said, “goofy pants and a fat a**.” Tiger came in looking like he could’ve been competitive in any professional sport, whereas his predecessors looked like they might’ve just walked right off the street onto the tee box (looking at you John Daly). Tiger stood 6 foot 1, weighing in at 185 pounds of solid muscle, and he hit the ball like an athlete: fast, violently, and far. He replaced the plaid pants and rayon socks with a red shirt and black pants on Sundays, a symbol to the rest of

the field that if he was ahead, you might as well stay on the practice tee that morning and save yourself the trouble.

We weren’t ready for Tiger Woods. But how could we be? We had never seen anything like him. Handsome, athletic, personable, rich beyond all belief, and tearing through a game that had frustrated its players for nearly 600 years. Ever since he was two year old, hitting into a net on television and wowing Bob Hope and Mike Douglas, along with the rest of the world, we set Tiger Woods apart. As he became the only player to win three US Amateur Championships and won a NCAA individual championship at Stanford, we already knew who he was. He went from Stanford to the PGA Tour, where he had a hole-in-one in his first pro event. This guy was blowing away golf courses at will, as we saw in the 1997 Masters, where he set the tournament scoring record and blew the field away by 12 strokes. From 2000-2009, he put together a run that is, for me, the most dominant

run in the history of sports. This run included: 14 major championships, 683 weeks spent as the top-ranked golfer, 142 consecutive cuts made, and only one loss in a playoff (1998 Nissan Open to Billy Mayfair). He was, unarguably, the best golfer and most dominant athlete ever.

The 2018 Masters gives us a small taste of the buzz that surrounded Tiger going into any major when he was in his prime. After back to back top five finishes (second at the Valspar open and fifth at the Arnold Palmer Invitational), Vegas has Tiger at 10-1 odds to win, tied for the best odds with three other players. Golf ratings are at the highest they’ve been since Tiger last made his comeback at the Hero World Challenge in 2016. His impact on the game, be it culturally, economically, or socially, cannot be overstated. So, heading into the Masters tomorrow, it’s important to realize what we have: a brief second chance to see something we may never see again.



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GC organizations support mental health awareness

Emmy Cooper
Staff Writer

“End the relative silence and to talk openly about mental health and suicide.” These were the closing words of Michael Ziblich on March 28 as a part of suicide prevention and awareness week.

Ziblich has spoken at over 20 universities nationwide

about mental health and suicide awareness.

Ziblich’s cause is a personal one. In 2012, he lost his son, who was a freshman in college, to suicide.

Nationally, suicide is the second most common cause of death among college students. This past week was suicide prevention and awareness week at GC. Active Minds, To Write Love On Her Arms, Alpha Tau Omega and other organizations tabled, hosted

events and promoted their passion for mental health awareness to students.

With her green button pinned over her heart reading “laugh more,” president of Active Minds, Katie Whitaker, shared the importance of the philanthropy.

“Active Minds is about promoting mental health awareness,” Whitaker said. “Throughout the year, we hold fundraisers and hand out different information on how to deal with stress and about the counseling services offered at GC.”

Also supporting the cause is To Write Love On Her Arms, a national organization brought to GC’s campus that helps spread the word about mental health awareness through sharing stories and giving out love letters.

Vice president Caroline Corely has been involved with TWLOHA for two years.

“I am so passionate about To Write Love On Her Arms and mental health itself because many of my friends have experienced depression, anxiety, eating disorders and other mental illnesses,” Corely said.

Corely also spoke about why she feels that mental health awareness is important here at GC: “I want to be educated on all the types of mental health and help spread the word throughout campus that if you’re going through something, you’re not alone, and to remember that you



Patrick Steimer / Staff Photographer

Guest speaker Michael Ziblich mingles with students during the dinner fundraiser.

are loved.”

Active Minds and TWLOHA partnered with fraternity Alpha Tau Omega for suicide prevention week.

The Will To Live Foundation is Alpha Tau Omega’s philanthropy which was started by a father after his son took his life. The foundation promotes the importance of mental health awareness and delivering hope to those who may need it.

ATO’s Service chair Hayden Spohn said that suicide prevention and awareness is close to the fraternity’s heart because some brothers have dealt closely with this.

“We’re honoring their stories and that has been our mission,” Spohn said.

Active Minds club member Enya Filberg is family friends with the Ziblich family.

“The club stuck out to me because suicide has affected me and my family personally,” Filberg said. “I was interested in getting involved in a new organization on campus,

and it seemed so positive.”

During his time speaking to students, Ziblich talked about the typical warning signs that someone may show if they are struggling. Some of these signs include traumatic mood changes, anger, withdrawal, reckless behavior, alcohol or drug use and talking directly about death or suicide.

GC offers free counseling services to students at the wellness center and welcomes anyone to make an appointment. There is also a national lifeline for suicide prevention (see graphic below) that specializes in talking to those who are considering taking their own life and giving them the help they need.

“I can only ask to recognize in ourselves that most shadows in our life are caused by standing in front of our own sunshine,” Ziblich said. “Let us recognize the shadow, and let us step into the light of awareness with courage and commitment and illuminate the pathway of life.”



Patrick Steimer / Staff Photographer

Students participate in a campaign called GC Speaks.

MILLEDGEVILLE CRISIS HOTLINE: 478-445-4737

CAMPUS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT RESOURCES

Rachael Alesia / Graphic Designer

ACTIVE MINDS

PRESIDENT: KATIE WHITAKER
CONTACT: ACTIVEMINDSGCSU1@GMAIL.COM

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HOW TO: VOLUNTEER ON CAMPUS

**Lindsay
Stevens**
Staff Writer

April is known as National Volunteer Month and students on GC's campus are taking advantage of volunteer opportunities around the Milledgeville community.

By partnering with The GIVE Center, students can choose from nearly 30 organizations to volunteer with.

Kendall Stiles, senior director for community engagement at the GIVE Center, said that they categorize the different service organization in topic interests to help volunteers engage in something they are passionate about.

"We have between 20 and 30 service organizations that have different volunteers and work with different nonprofits in the community," Stiles said. "We try to figure out what the needs are in the community and the service organizations and then what the desires and wants of the volunteers are."

Junior Diana Kight, an English major, chose to volunteer with Baldwin County schools as a tutor when she was a freshman.

"I always liked working with kids and tutoring like in high school

before transitioning into college, so I thought it would be a good benefit for me," Kight said. "I find it is so good to give back to the community, and Baldwin county is a great place to give back."

Senior Kelsey Megson, Rally PR and Recruitment chair and a MIS major, said she volunteers because she wants to repay Milledgeville for being her home throughout her college years.

"Volunteering has given me a great way to give back to the community," said Megson. "Rally raises money for childhood cancer research, and at the end of the day knowing you are raising money to help kids who are currently battling cancer is so rewarding."

Volunteers can also receive national awards and scholarships through the GIVE Center. One of the most popular awards they offer is the National Presidents Volunteers Service award. This award is offered at three levels: bronze with a minimum of 100 hours, silver with a minimum of 175 hours, and gold with a minimum 250 hours. The timeline to get these hours is March 1 to Feb. 28 of the following year.

"This year we're recognizing about 150 students at different levels, and we will actually have that award ceremony where they will get their certificate and letter

from the president," Stiles said.

Since the GIVE center opened, they have recorded over 792,000 hours and have registered 21,490 volunteers. Just this year alone, they have recorded 51,125 hours.

The GIVE Centers largest event is coming up on April 7 with GC Miracles Dance Marathon. This event will raise money to fund the construction of a new hospital in Macon.

"Our big event is coming up, which is dance marathon with GC Miracle," Stiles said. "GC Miracle is our largest service group. They have a big goal, and they are working hard to fulfill that, and we're excited to see them actually get that goal and be excited about it."

The GIVE Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. They register volunteers Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To register to be a volunteer, students must bring an ID—which cannot be a Bobcat Card—and social security number and to go to the GIVE Center. There they copy the ID so they can perform an official background check.

Next, potential-volunteers can use the computers provided to join iVolunteer on OrgSync and fill out the registration form. At the end of

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

STEP 1 GO TO THE GIVE CENTER AND REGISTER. MAKE SURE TO BRING A FORM OF ID& KNOW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

STEP 2 JOIN IVOLEUNTEER ON ORGSYNC AND FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION FORM.

STEP 3 WATCH THE TRAINING VIDEOS ON IVOLEUNTEER

STEP 4 DISCUSS THE BEST AGENCIES FOR YOU TO JOIN WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR PLACEMENT ON THE PHONE CALL

Kristen Pack / Graphic Designer

the form there are two videos to watch to finish the orientation.

A few days after completing this form, potential-volunteers will receive a placement phone call to discuss different options to work

with to make sure it is a right fit.

"If students are interested in volunteering, it is not too late," Stiles said. "They can come by the GIVE Center."

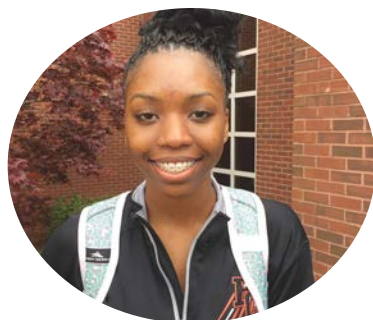


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Bobcats SPEAK OUT



“Over spring break I went home to Savannah and hung out with my family and best friend. It was good. I didn’t do any homework. I just chilled, kind of stayed in, did some shopping and went to the beach.”

-Teonna Hayes, freshman and nursing major



“Me and two buddies from back home went all over north-central Florida. I rode an elephant which was really cool. We kind of spring hopped and went to different fresh water springs that are crystal clear. There were some wild manatees that we got to swim with, and I connected with these huge animals. It was definitely cool.”

-Kaleb Clifford, senior and environmental science major

WHAT DID YOU DO OVER SPRING BREAK?

Compiled by Katie O’Neal



“Over spring break, I stayed here in Milledgeville and watched Black Panther. I also picked up on my drawings which mostly consist of cartoons.”

-Dontavius T. Wilson, sophomore and English major



“I went to Memphis, Tennessee with my girlfriend. We went to the National Civil Rights Museum, and we also saw a live jazz band at B.B. King’s club. We went down by the Riverwalk and had some great Memphis barbecue.”

-Cameron Watts, sophomore and economics major



“Boarding House Reach” by Jack White

By Benjamin Monckton

“Boarding House Reach” is a daring unorthodox escapade for the already unorthodox modern rocker Jack White. This third solo album is a creative departure from his previous solo work, and his work with The White Stripes, The Raconteurs and The Dead Weather.

Each project has helped define White as a rocker capable of honky-tonk piano ditties and electric anthems. “Boarding

House Reach” abandons this signature in an effort to take on an experimental sound that most will find, well, a bit weird.

Moments on “Boarding House Reach” range from uncomfortable to all-out painful. “Why Walk a Dog,” for instance, is a painful two-and-a-half-minute statement against pet ownership that make you wish White was pulling your leg. A political statement against pet ownership, sure, I can deal with it. But White’s delivery feels out of place.

On “Everything You’ve Ever Learned,” it feels more as though Jack White is having fun making music, comfortable to have creative freedom, messing around with funk, rock and hip-hop elements. But unfortunately, listening to the album is far less fun.

“Corporation” has the potential to rouse a crowd in a live setting, but the recorded version simply doesn’t function with the act.

About halfway through the record, just when I had almost given up hope, an octave-fuzz guitar riff and a spastic rhythm pay homage to White’s previous material with The White Stripes. As the album’s refreshing high point, this song, “Over

and Over and Over,” reminds the listener why they came along for this crazy ride in the first place.

As a Jack White fan from the beginning, I had high expectations for the record and was disappointed. Since its release, I’ve approached it several times with different perspectives, trying to make sense of what White is doing.

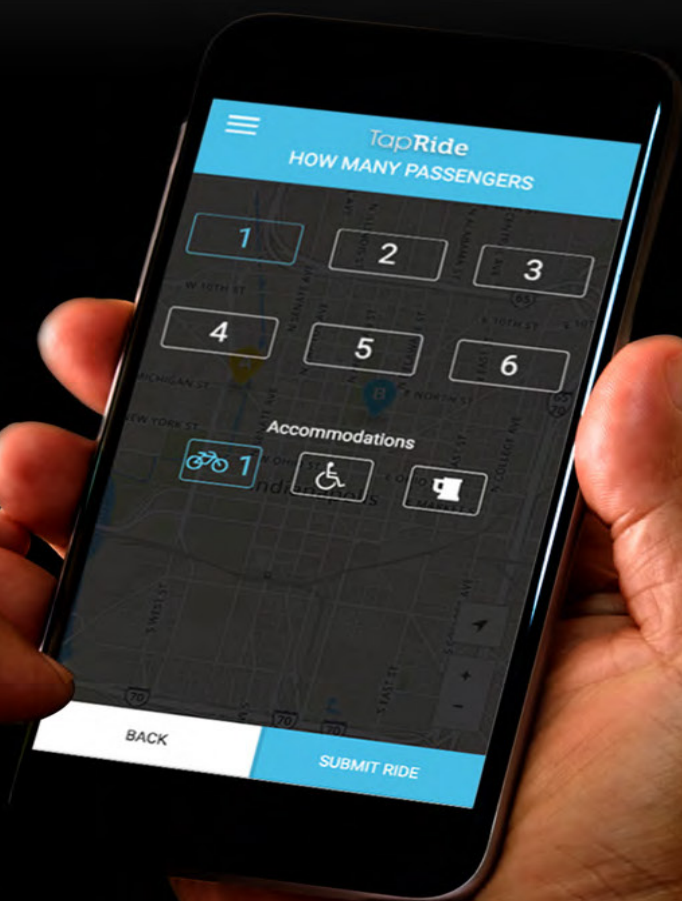
It’s comforting to know I’m not the only one. Reviews have been mixed. Some are baffled while others applaud White for taking risks and abandoning his conventional album approach. White himself has stated that this album would be his “experimental” album.

While artists should continue to push the boundaries and reshape the sonic landscape of musical traditions, there have been more failures than successes. Few bands have been able to do a 180 on their sound and do it well. The artists who succeed have changed music forever, and incited revolutions. Unfortunately, this album will not join the revolutionary works of Kid As and Sergeant Peppers. Instead, the album feels empty of the conviction that defined White’s earlier work.

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